

# HEA 1004

## County Selection

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# Statutory Requirements

- \* Eligible children are 4-year-olds from families whose income is at or below 127% of the federal poverty level.
- \* Eligible providers are:
  - \* i) public schools (including charter schools) and child care facilities who meet Level 3 or 4 Paths to QUALITY™; and
  - \* ii) accredited nonpublic schools.
- \* Providers must provide parental engagement/involvement component and must administer a kindergarten readiness assessment adopted by the State Board of Education.

# Statutory Requirements

- \* FSSA shall administer the program and determine:
  - \* The eligibility requirements, application process, and selection process for awarding grants;
  - \* The administration and reporting requirements for eligible providers; and
  - \* With the assistance of the early learning advisory committee, an appropriate outcomes based accountability system for eligible providers.

# Program Details

- \* Up to \$15 million dollars may be expended annually.
  - \* \$10 million appropriated from FSSA reversions.
  - \* 10 – 50 % (\$1 - \$5 million) in matching private or public (non-state) funds.
- \* Statute permits a per-child grant amount between \$2,500-\$6,800.
- \* The program could serve between 2,200-6,000 children depending on the program design (assuming the full 50% match amount is raised).

# Longitudinal Study

- \* Longitudinal study will compare eligible children against similar students who did not receive pre-K services.
- \* The study must include a comparison of assessment results in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.
- \* Programs provided by eligible providers must “meet the design parameters for inclusion in the longitudinal study.”

# County Selection Process

- \* Statutory requirements for county selection:
  - \* Must “attempt to achieve diversity among the designated counties based on the geographical location of the counties, the population of the counties, and whether the counties are primarily rural or urban.”
  - \* Must ensure “a population of eligible children sufficient to conduct the longitudinal study.”

# County Selection Process

- \* Two stages:

- \* Stage 1 (May 23): Advisory group convened to narrow the number of eligible counties to 18 through objective measures, including geographic diversity and rural/urban balance, the # of eligible students and providers, and measures of countywide child poverty.
- \* Stage 2 (June 4): Counties selected in stage 1 are invited to submit a proposal on “county readiness measures.”

- \* July 2014 – Advisory group selects final five counties.

# County Selection Process

## Stage 1

- \* Metro\* counties must have at least 300 children in need of early learning services, at least 10 eligible providers, and at least 25% of children ages 0-5 living in poverty.
- \* Non-metro\* counties must have at least 200 children in need of early learning services, at least 5 eligible providers, and at least 25% of children ages 0-5 living in poverty.

\* Using U.S. OMB/Census definition.



# Statement of County Readiness

- \* Technical Requirements for Submission:
  - \* No more than 8 pages.
  - \* No supplementary material (except match commitment letters).
  - \* Must address *countywide readiness*, not the readiness of individual providers, communities or cities.
  - \* Must be ***received*** no later than 4:30 PM EST, June 30, 2014.
- \* ***We strongly encourage respondents to collaborate and to identify a lead respondent when submitting their statements.***

# Statement of County Readiness

- \* The County Readiness Statement

- I. Executive Summary

- II. Community Engagement

- III. Provider Capacity

- IV. Financial Match

- V. County Readiness and Program Implementation

<http://www.in.gov/fssa/4899.htm>

# Things to Consider

- \* The following slides are suggestions of things to consider as you are completing a County Readiness Statement.
- \* This list is not exhaustive and should not limit your collaborative response, but may be a helpful place to start.

# Cover Page

- \* **Counties are strongly encouraged to collaborate.**
- \* Cover page must be signed by a representative and co-respondent(s) (as applicable).
- \* Counties must provide FSSA with a single point of contact, who agrees to communicate on behalf of and with the co-respondents.
- \* Indicate the estimated number of children within your county that meet eligibility criteria and are not already receiving early learning services through other public or private funding streams.
- \* Indicate the number of eligible providers within the county, including those that are not currently eligible or are not currently providing PreK, but would if this opportunity becomes available.

# Executive Summary

- \* The section provides you with the opportunity to give an overall picture of your county's ability to meet the requirements of the statute and readiness to provide high quality PreK services to unserved, low income children.

# Community Engagement

- \* This section should clearly describe your county's commitment to PreK, including the types of early learning services and supports currently available and investments made in early learning programs.
- \* This section should also demonstrate existing, effective county level collaboration.
- \* Use this section to demonstrate how your county level early learning investments and priorities will contribute to a successful PreK Pilot program.

# Family Engagement

- \* Describe the programs or services that are currently available in your county to support families of young children and how these initiatives align with the goals of the PreK Pilot.
- \* Describe how these programs or service do or will partner with eligible providers to facilitate the meaningful engagement of parents in their child's early education?
- \* Describe how your county will identify eligible children not currently receiving early learning services (such as Head Start, Title 1 or CCDF). The purpose of the PreK Pilot is to supplement and not supplant.
- \* Describe county outreach to these families.

# Provider Capacity

- \* Identify eligible providers within your county and estimate their capacity for serving four year olds.
- \* Include currently eligible providers that will expand to serve additional children as well as new providers that will meet eligibility requirements. **The section must clearly indicate current capacity versus anticipated future capacity.**
- \* How will your county assist in capacity building?
- \* How will your county encourage partnerships that best serve the needs of low income families- for example partnerships between community based and school based programs, transportation, and/or transitions to Kindergarten?



# Financial Match

- \* Matching funds must be a cash match.
- \* FSSA will manage the match as part of the total grant funding.
- \* Matching funds can be designated for a specific county but not a specific provider.
- \* The purpose of this section of the Statement is to determine the current match commitment, if any, and to identify any plans for future fundraising.
- \* This section also provides the opportunity for your county to discuss your plan for sustaining supports beyond the PreK Pilot.

# County Readiness and Implementation

- \* The purpose of this section is to determine county readiness for potential early implementation of the PreK Pilot.
- \* Factors include adequate provider capacity, sufficient family interest and significant community engagement.
- \* Your county must be able to establish readiness no later than July of 2015.

# Important Dates

- \* **June 24, 9:00 am ET**

FSSA will host a second webinar to address any remaining questions that you have identified during the drafting of the statements.

<http://www.webinar.in.gov/bcc>

- \* **June 30, 4:30 pm ET**

County Readiness Statements are due to FSSA. Late statements will not be reviewed (page 4).

# Questions?

- \* Answers to any questions that we are not able to address during the webinar will be made available as soon as possible on the FSSA Pre-K Pilot Program home page: <http://www.in.gov/fssa/4899.htm>.